

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claim 1. Claim 1 has been amended solely for the purpose of improved readability. Since such amendments are made to correct minor, basic elements, Applicants submit that that they do not narrow the scope of the claim and do not raise any Festo implications.

In addition, new claim 28 was added. New claim 28 is supported in the specification on page 43, line 1 to page 45, line 11. Specifically, "Message = Text_Length; Content_ID_Count; [TEXT]; [CONTENT_ID_LIST]". One of ordinary skill in the art knows that this is the body of the message because it does not contain control information such as source, destination, input sequence number or priority level; in addition, text is commonly associated with the body of the message as opposed to the headers.

Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for initialing the references listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified) submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 26, 2000.

Prior Art Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-27, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by USP 6,563,836 to Capps et al. (hereinafter "Capps"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider this rejection in view of the comments, which follow.

With respect to method claims 1-9, only claim 1 is independent. Claim 1 requires:

creating a message, wherein the message comprises at least one out of a group of notification event with zero text and zero content identifiers, text message, and content identifier;

The Examiner asserts that claim 1 is directed to a method for communication between a first computer and a second computer and is anticipated by Capps. The Examiner asserts that Capps' property message with two keys is equivalent to a message with text and content identifiers as set forth in claim 1 (see page 3 of the Office Action). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner. Applicant has carefully studied Capps' discussion of the property messages with two keys: one equaling the unique ID number of the actual message and the other value of the respective property, which is not similar to the message set forth in claim 1.

Capps teaches a system that facilitates inter-program communications, particularly between programs residing in different environments (col. 3, lines 18-20). In addition, Capps teaches facilitating dynamic prioritization and handling of messages (col. 3, lines 20-22). Specifically, the reference teaches that different programs might be running on different computers (clients and servers) that are interconnected by a network. Capps' system provides a dynamic prioritization and handling of messages and any properties that one might want to use for establishing priority (col. 4, lines 25 to 30). That is, two keys are placed on a message: unique identification number and a code ID (property value).

In addition, there are several queues: one main queue which stores the actual body of the message, and several user created property queues (e.g., time zone, type, size), which store the two keys for each message (col. 4, lines 50 to 66). In short, Capps teaches a technique of

prioritizing, while using the conventional method of storing data in the main queue and using a unique id to retrieve it from the main queue.

However, Capps teaches a property message with a zero-byte body and two keys in the header. That is, Capps teaches that the body of the message will always be empty (zero bytes); all the information is stored in the header (keys are the part of a group of data by which it is sorted, indexed, cross-referenced). As such, Capps fails to teach or suggest having a message comprising of text. In Capps, there is simply no text in the property message. In addition, the main queue has in the body of the message, the item itself (col. 5, lines 53 to 63). Therefore, a message stored in the main queue is a conventional message with an item in the body and certain searchable keys and a unique ID. In short, Capps teaches conventional message with novel headers, which are reorganized for reproduction according to a property key but it fails to teach or suggest message comprising of text and content identifiers. In Capps, the actual message is empty.

In fact, Capps is no different from the admitted prior art. In the background section of the Specification: “Multimedia information objects usually do not contain indexing information. The indexing information for multimedia information is often kept in ‘business like’ database separated from the physical object” (see page 3, lines 1-10 of the Specification). That is, an example, of searching the library catalog is given where each book might be searched by author, name, etc. (see page 3, lines 11 to 20).

Therefore, *a message* as set forth in claim 1 is not suggested or taught by Capps, which lacks a message comprising at least one of the group of event notification, text and content

identifier. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from Capps. Applicant therefore respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection of independent claim 1. Also, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-9 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

Moreover, with respect to the dependent claim 3, Applicant respectfully points out that Capps teaches that an actual item is being stored in the main queue and property queues access this main queue by using a unique item identifier. That is, a unique ID is given to the original message when it is being placed in the main queue. Since the actual message is in the queue, there is no need to provide a server name of where the item is located. As such, Capps fails to teach or suggest a content identifier with a server name. In short, Capps teaches homogenous searching (the main queue) and fails to teach or suggest heterogeneous searching (where data, the actual item, might be located in different databases). Therefore, Capps also fails to teach or suggest the recitation of claim 3.

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection now with respect to the apparatus claims 10-18. Of these claims only claim 10 is independent. Claim 10 recites “wherein the message comprises at least one out of a group of event notification, text, and content identifier.” This limitation is similar to the limitation recited in claim 1. Since claim 10 contains features that are similar to the features argued above with respect to claim 1, those arguments are respectfully submitted to apply with equal force here. For at least substantially the same reasons, therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection of independent claim 10 and its dependent claims 11-18.

Finally, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection with respect to an article of manufacture claims 19-27. Of these claims only claim 19 is independent. Claim 19 recites “wherein the message comprises at least one out of a group of event notification..., text, and content identifier.” This limitation is similar to the limitation recited in claim 1. Since claim 19 contains features that are similar to the features argued above with respect to claim 1, those arguments are respectfully submitted to apply with equal force here. For at least substantially the same reasons, therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection of independent claim 10 and its dependent claims 11-18.

New Claim

In order to provide more varied protection, new claim 28 is added. Specifically, claim 28 is not anticipated by Capps because it recites that it is the body of the message and not the header that comprises of an event notification, text and/or content identifiers.

Conclusion and request for telephone interview.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No. 09/750,489

Attorney Docket No.: A8118

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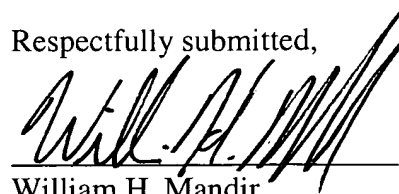
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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William H. Mandir', written over a horizontal line.

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Date: December 11, 2003